

## **Mississippi Delta Health Collaborative Strategic Alliance**

Adverse health outcomes among residents living in the Mississippi Delta cannot be attributed to one single factor. Recognizing the confluence of many factors that have lead to the disparate health outcomes among persons living in the Delta region, the Mississippi Delta Health Collaborative has convened an Strategic Alliance composed of leadership representing various layers of influence within the community, including healthcare, education, politics, employment and economic development.

The Strategic Alliance provides technical assistance to the Mississippi Delta Health Collaborative in developing community-based initiatives which integrate evidence-based practice strategies for the reduction of risk factors which can lead to heart disease and/or stroke. These risk factors include a lack of access to physical activity, healthy foods, and quality healthcare; and exposure to tobacco smoke.

### **Role of the Strategic Alliance**

- Provide guidance and expertise to assist the Mississippi Delta Health Collaborative in carrying out the intended goals and objectives of the program.
- Contribute to a coordinated effort to implement evidenced-based strategies to reduce heart disease and stroke at the policy and environmental systems level.
- Develop and promote recommendations for public health practice within the community, faith-based, healthcare, worksite, and school settings.
- Develop and promote recommendations for policy and the environment which promote easy and accessible health behaviors.

### **Membership**

The MDHC is in the process of selecting Strategic Alliance members from all aspects of the community.